

TRA, helped codify our pledge to the people of Taiwan and serves as a reminder that the continued support and strengthening of U.S.-Taiwan relations aids our mutual interests and shared values.

Over the last few decades, Taiwan has emerged as a global leader in innovative technology and the heart of Asia's IT and Knowledge Economy sectors. Through the implementation of sound free-market policies and promotion of democratic ideals, we have seen a small agrarian economy transform itself into a growing global leader in the technology sector. Taiwan is now the world's second largest producer of ICT goods, and companies like Acer and HTC are now household names.

Our mutually beneficial cooperation and exchange with Taiwan has helped dozens of American companies meet their ever-growing demand for equipment and expertise. The partnerships between American and Taiwanese innovators and job creators ensured a virtuous cycle of economic development in Taiwan and lower costs for American consumers.

The U.S. should welcome Taiwanese participation in efforts to advance regional economic integration, such as the Trans Pacific Partnership. Taiwan is one of the region's most dynamic economies and its entry into the TPP will substantially expand the market encompassed by the agreement. Additionally, Taiwan's recent experience transitioning from a developing, domestically focused economy to a globally integrated economy will be invaluable as TPP partners make difficult choices and reforms to comply with higher standards set by TPP.

As a longstanding friend of Taiwan, I am proud to voice my support for this resolution today. Few could have foreseen the political and economic progress that Taiwan has undergone since 1979. Our commitment to broadening and deepening our commercial and investment linkages with Taiwan will ensure that the spirit of the TRA endures and contributes to mutual prosperity on both sides of the Pacific.

A TRIBUTE TO BRENDA LEVIN

HON. ADAM B. SCHIFF

OF CALIFORNIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Wednesday, April 9, 2014

Mr. SCHIFF. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to honor Brenda Levin of Los Angeles, upon receiving the 2014 Rose Award from the Los Angeles Parks Foundation. The Rose Award is being given to Ms. Levin for her extraordinary contributions to the quality of life in Los Angeles.

Ms. Levin received her education in graphic design at Carnegie Mellon and New York Universities and in architecture at the Harvard Graduate School of Design. Born in New York, Ms. Levin moved to Los Angeles in 1976 and worked for architect John Lautner for two years. Ms. Levin's first project in Los Angeles with the firm Group Arcon was renovation of the James Oviatt building. She then established her own architecture and urban planning firm, Levin & Associates Architects, in Los Angeles in the year 1980.

In the 1980s, Ms. Levin connected with the urban revitalization pioneers, who successfully

revived segments of the city that had been disregarded. Ms. Levin is known for revitalizing Los Angeles's urban, historic, and cultural forum and pioneering in the preservation of significant historical landmarks. Noteworthy examples of her historic preservation and adaptive re-use work on Los Angeles's most valued icons include: the Bradbury Building, Grand Central Market, Wilton Theater, Los Angeles City Hall, and Griffith Observatory.

Ms. Levin's portfolio also incorporates designing new institutional, commercial, and multi-family housing facilities. In addition, she has been involved in the design of cultural buildings such as: The Boone Gallery at the Huntington Library, National Center for the Preservation of Democracy, the Autry National Center and Southwest Museums. More recent projects include Dodger Stadium, Wilshire Boulevard Temple, the Hercules Campus at Playa Vista, and Los Angeles County's Ford Amphitheatre.

Ms. Levin's exceptional work has been recognized with numerous awards. She is a Fellow of the American Institute of Architects and the AIA/Los Angeles selected her recipient of the 2010 Gold Metal, the highest honor bestowed upon an individual. A significant virtue of Ms. Levin's work has been the preservation of historical sites for generations to come.

I hereby ask all Members of Congress to join me in honoring Brenda Levin for her exemplary service and commitment to the Los Angeles community.

TRIBUTE TO JASON KIESAU

HON. TOM LATHAM

OF IOWA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Wednesday, April 9, 2014

Mr. LATHAM. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to congratulate and recognize Jason Kiesau of Merit Resources in Urbandale, Iowa, for being named a 2014 Forty Under 40 honoree by the award-winning central Iowa publication, Business Record.

Since 2000, Business Record has undertaken an exhaustive annual review to identify a standout group of young leaders in the Greater Des Moines area who are making an impact in their communities and their careers. Each year, forty up-and-coming community and business leaders under 40 years of age are selected for this prestigious distinction, which is based on a combined criteria of community involvement and success in their chosen career field. The 2014 class of Forty Under 40 honorees join an impressive roster of nearly 600 business leaders and growing.

Mr. Speaker, it is a profound honor to represent leaders like Jason in the United States Congress and it is with great pride that I recognize and applaud Mr. Kiesau for utilizing his talents to better both his community and the great state of Iowa. I invite my colleagues in the House to join me in congratulating Jason on receiving this esteemed designation, thanking those at Business Record for their great work, and wishing each member of the 2014 Forty Under 40 class continued success.

INTRODUCTION OF LEGISLATION ESTABLISHING A DISADVANTAGED BUSINESS ENTERPRISE PROGRAM AT THE FEDERAL RAILROAD ADMINISTRATION

HON. CORRINE BROWN

OF FLORIDA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Wednesday, April 9, 2014

Ms. BROWN of Florida. Mr. Speaker, it is critical that we continue to improve access for women and minorities to jobs and contract opportunities in the field of transportation.

As the Ranking Member on the Subcommittee on Railroads, Pipelines, and Hazardous Materials I am introducing legislation today establishing a Disadvantaged Business Enterprise (DBE) program at the Federal Railroad Administration so that women and minority owned businesses will be guaranteed participation in any new passenger and high speed rail initiatives.

The U.S. Department of Transportation has been the leader in ensuring minority and women owned participation in transportation projects, advocating for a reasonable 10% set aside for businesses that often struggle to compete on an uneven playing field with larger firms. Currently, each of the other modes of transportation have a successful DBE program, and it is critical that the Federal Railroad Administration develop a program for these same businesses.

The Congressional Black Caucus has made strengthening Disadvantaged Business Enterprise (DBE) programs at the Department of Transportation a top priority, and will continue to push to ensure that these worthy goals are being met.

This legislation will keep the American Dream alive for many women and minority owned companies and I encourage its swift passage and implementation.

IN RECOGNITION OF THE LUZERNE COUNTY EMERGENCY RESPONDERS AND PUBLIC SAFETY TELECOMMUNICATORS

HON. MATT CARTWRIGHT

OF PENNSYLVANIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Wednesday, April 9, 2014

Mr. CARTWRIGHT. Mr. Speaker, today I rise to acknowledge the men and women of Luzerne County Emergency Responders and Public Safety Telecommunicators, who on April 12, 2014 will hold a Public Safety Open House to celebrate National County Government Month and National Public Safety Telecommunicators Week.

Emergencies that require police, fire, or emergency medical services can occur at any time. When an emergency occurs, the prompt response of police officers, firefighters, and paramedics is critical to saving lives and protecting homes. The safety and success of our police officers and firefighters depends upon the quality and accuracy of information provided through the Luzerne County 911 communications center.

Public Safety Telecommunicators are the first and most critical contact our citizens have with emergency services. They serve as the